

## CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for effecting at least one of display and input, comprising:

5 a flexible sheet-like member for effecting at least one of display and input, and

a rigidity adjusting means for changing at least partially a rigidity of said flexible sheet-like member.

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2. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said sheet-like member comprises an input portion and a display portion which substantially overlap each other to provide a unit when viewed from a direction  
15 of a user's line of sight.

3. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said rigidity adjusting means comprises a control portion and a rigidity adjusting member attached to  
20 the sheet-like member, said rigidity adjusting member being formed of a variable-rigidity material.

4. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises first detection means  
25 for detecting a state of said sheet-like member, and said rigidity adjusting member is not controlled to ensure rigidity necessary for said sheet-like member

unless said detection means at least detects that said sheet-like member is not placed on a surface having a certain degree of rigidity.

5           5. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises second detection means for detecting start of input, and said rigidity adjusting member is not controlled to ensure rigidity necessary for said apparatus unless said second  
10 detection means at least detects start of input.

6. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises third detection means for detecting stop of input, and said rigidity  
15 adjusting member is controlled to return said rigidity adjusting member in a flexible state when said third detection means detects stop of input in such a state that rigidity necessary for said apparatus is ensured.

20           7. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprising means for controlling timing of ensuring and/or losing rigidity necessary for the apparatus.

25           8. An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the first detection means detects a state of said apparatus to control said rigidity adjusting means

even during input is performed.

9. An apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein  
said apparatus further comprises control portion  
5 operation means for permitting a user to operate a  
control portion, and rigidity of said apparatus is  
controllable by operating the control portion  
operation means by the user.

10 10. An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein  
said rigidity adjusting means comprises a movable  
mechanism which can be placed in such a state that it  
does not impair flexibility of said sheet-like member  
and is movable in an area capable of at least  
15 partially  
ensure rigidity of said sheet-like member.

11. An apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein  
said apparatus is at least an apparatus for effecting  
20 display, and said rigidity adjusting member also  
functions as a base portion of drive means for driving  
said apparatus.